



This is important!

It is your responsibility to make this happen!

Your candidate will open Love Letters during the Retreat. Every year one or two kids end up with no letter and this is tragic. This is a unique opportunity to share your families' and friends' love for and with your candidate. Here are some guidelines for what the Love Letter involves:

- A note, card or letter to your candidate that tells them they are loved, appreciated, admired, special.
- For many parents and/or sponsors this is a great opportunity to say the things they have always wanted to say but haven't.
- For those that say "I love you!" every day to their child, this is a chance to express it again in a different way.
- Share your faith or your experience with Confirmation.
- It can be simple but it needs to be personal and from the heart.
- It can include little treasures like a prayer card, a flower, a photo, a drawing or doodle. We're biased toward homemade things made with loving hands/hearts.
- Quality is not measured by professionalism or great literary skills but by simple sharing of love.
- Each candidate should receive at least 3 Love Letters. They should come from you the sponsor, parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends.
- **This should be a surprise for the retreat!** Do not let the candidate know you are doing this.
- We ask that you do NOT send a retreat survival kit (candy, stuffed animal, flowers, etc.). We move around and do too much to keep track of them, save them for the reception after the ceremony.

PARENT/SPONSOR TO DO LIST:

1. Make a list of the people that should send a Love Letter to your candidate.
2. Call them and review the guidelines above, get a commitment.
3. Tell them to send the love letters to you by last week of October.
4. Call them and remind them in October.
5. By October 26, put all the letters into one envelope and put your candidate's FIRST and LAST name on the front of the envelope. Drop them off in the Faith Formation office or mail them to:

St. Matthew Catholic Church
Office of Faith Formation
RE: LOVE LETTERS
8015 Ballantyne Commons Parkway
Charlotte, NC 28277

6. By October 25, call anyone who did not send a letter and tell them to mail it to St. Matthew with the candidate's FIRST and LAST name on the outside of the envelope by November 1st, if at all possible. The retreat is Nov. 5th from 2pm until 9pm.

Email Barb Kohler in the Faith Formation Office with any questions. Barbarak@stmatthewcatholic.org